

**Texas Education Agency  
Standard Application System (SAS)**

**2014-2016 Technology Lending Program Grant**

<b>Program authority:</b>	General Appropriations Act, Article III, Rider 8, 83rd Texas Legislature; TEC, Chapter 31, Section 31.021(f) and Chapter 32	<b>FOR TEA USE ONLY</b> Write NOGA ID here:
<b>Grant period:</b>	October 1, 2014, to August 31, 2016	
<b>Application deadline:</b>	5:00 p.m. Central Time, May 13, 2014	
<b>Submittal information:</b>	<b>Four</b> complete copies of the application, three with original signature (blue ink preferred), must be received no later than the aforementioned time and date at this address: Document Control Center, Division of Grants Administration Texas Education Agency 1701 North Congress Ave Austin TX 78701-1494	Place date stamp here. <div style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">           Received            Texas Education Agency            2014 MAY -2 2 11:51 AM            Document Control Center         </div>
<b>Contact information:</b>	Kathy Ferguson: techlending@tea.state.tx.us; (512) 463-9400	

**Schedule #1—General Information**

**Part 1: Applicant Information**

Organization name	County-District #	Campus name/#	Amendment #
Northside Independent School District	015915	136, 052, 007	
Vendor ID #	ESC Region #	US Congressional District #	DUNS #
1-74-6015904	20	20	069450716
Mailing address		City	State ZIP Code
5900 Evers Road		San Antonio	TX 78238-1606

**Primary Contact**

First name	M.I.	Last name	Title
Doug		Shudde	Director
Telephone #	Email address		FAX #
(210) 397-8170	Doug.Shudde@nisd.net		(210) 706-8974

**Secondary Contact**

First name	M.I.	Last name	Title
Sharon		Sanchez	Director
Telephone #	Email address		FAX #
(210) 397-7532	Sharon.Sanchez@nisd.net		(210) 706-7228

**Part 2: Certification and Incorporation**

I hereby certify that the information contained in this application is, to the best of my knowledge, correct and that the organization named above has authorized me as its representative to obligate this organization in a legally binding contractual agreement. I further certify that any ensuing program and activity will be conducted in accordance with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations, application guidelines and instructions, the general provisions and assurances, debarment and suspension certification, lobbying certification requirements, special provisions and assurances, and the schedules attached as applicable. **It is understood by the applicant that this application constitutes an offer and, if accepted by the Agency or renegotiated to acceptance, will form a binding agreement.**

**Authorized Official:**

First name Brian	M.I. T	Last name Woods	Title Superintendent
Telephone # 210-397-8770	Email address Brian.Woods@nisd.net		FAX #

Signature (blue ink preferred)  Date signed  
5-6-14

Only the legally responsible party may sign this application.

701-14-107-036

**Schedule #1—General Information (cont.)**

County-district number or vendor ID: 015915

Amendment # (for amendments only):

**Part 3: Schedules Required for New or Amended Applications**

An X in the "New" column indicates a required schedule that must be submitted as part of any new application. The applicant must mark the "New" checkbox for each additional schedule submitted to complete the application.

For amended applications, the applicant must mark the "Amended" checkbox for each schedule being submitted as part of the amendment.

Schedule #	Schedule Name	Application Type	
		New	Amended
1	General Information	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2	Required Attachments and Provisions and Assurances	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A
4	Request for Amendment	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5	Program Executive Summary	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	Program Budget Summary	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	Professional and Contracted Services (6200)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	Supplies and Materials (6300)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10	Other Operating Costs (6400)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11	Capital Outlay (6600/15XX)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12	Demographics and Participants to Be Served with Grant Funds	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13	Needs Assessment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14	Management Plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15	Project Evaluation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16	Responses to Statutory Requirements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17	Responses to TEA Requirements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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**Schedule #2—Required Attachments and Provisions and Assurances**

County-district number or vendor ID: 015915

Amendment # (for amendments only):

**Part 1: Required Attachments**

The following table lists the fiscal-related and program-related documents that are required to be submitted with the application (attached to the back of each copy, as an appendix).

#	Applicant Type	Name of Required Fiscal-Related Attachment
No fiscal-related attachments are required for this grant.		
#	Name of Required Program-Related Attachment	Description of Required Program-Related Attachment
No program-related attachments are required for this grant.		

**Part 2: Acceptance and Compliance**

By marking an X in each of the boxes below, the authorized official who signs Schedule #1—General Information certifies his or her acceptance of and compliance with all of the following guidelines, provisions, and assurances.

**Note that provisions and assurances specific to this program are listed separately, in Part 3 of this schedule, and require a separate certification.**

X	Acceptance and Compliance
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I certify my acceptance of and compliance with the <u>General and Fiscal Guidelines</u> .
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I certify my acceptance of and compliance with the <u>program guidelines</u> for this grant.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I certify my acceptance of and compliance with all <u>General Provisions and Assurances</u> requirements.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I certify that I am not debarred or suspended. I also certify my acceptance of and compliance with all <u>Debarment and Suspension Certification</u> requirements.

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**Schedule #2—Required Attachments and Provisions and Assurances**

County-district number or vendor ID: 015915

Amendment # (for amendments only):

**Part 3: Program-Specific Provisions and Assurances**☒ I certify my acceptance of and compliance with all program-specific provisions and assurances listed below.

#	Provision/Assurance
1.	The applicant provides assurance that program funds will supplement (increase the level of service), and not supplant (replace) state mandates, State Board of Education rules, and activities previously conducted with state or local funds. The applicant provides assurance that state or local funds may not be decreased or diverted for other purposes merely because of the availability of these funds. The applicant provides assurance that program services and activities to be funded from this grant will be supplementary to existing services and activities and will not be used for any services or activities required by state law, State Board of Education rules, or local policy.
2.	The applicant provides assurance that the application does not contain any information that would be protected by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) from general release to the public.
3.	The applicant assures that funds provided under the Instructional Materials Allotment (IMA) or other funding are insufficient to purchase enough lending technology for every student who needs dedicated access to a device.
4.	The applicant assures that it will provide access to lending technology and residential access to the Internet for students, including economically disadvantaged students and students with disabilities, who do not already have either the needed equipment or Internet service for learning at home.
5.	The applicant understands that equipment purchased with Technology Lending Program Grant funds is the property of the district or charter school.
6.	The applicant assures that infrastructure and technical support are adequate to support students' use of loaned equipment provided through the grant at its participating campus(es).
7.	The applicant assures that it will provide adequate staff to administer the program and ensure successful implementation.
8.	The applicant assures that it will account for the technology lending equipment in accordance with district policy for accounting for such equipment, including providing insurance when insurance is typically provided for such equipment. The applicant understands that the grant funds cannot be used to replace lost, stolen, or damaged equipment.
9.	The applicant assures that it will obtain a Technology Lending Agreement signed by the parents/guardian of each participating student and by the student participating in the program, including an assurance of student's mastery of the grade-appropriate Digital Citizenship strand of the Technology Applications Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills.
10.	The applicant assures that it has an approved 2013-2014 district technology plan on file with TEA. The applicant understands that if an approved 2013-2014 district technology plan is not on file with TEA at the time the application is submitted to TEA on the application due date, the application is not eligible to be funded.
11.	The applicants assures that it is at Developing or higher Level of Progress in Teaching and Learning and in Educator Preparation in their Texas Campus School Technology and Readiness (STaR Chart) report for the 2012-2013 school year.
11.	The applicant assures that technology lending and use of electronic instructional materials are incorporated into school district or open-enrollment charter school's technology plan.
12.	The applicant assures that appropriate professional development has already been provided for teachers in the use of digital content or that appropriate professional development will be provided within the first three months of the grant period (i.e., October 1, 2014-December 31, 2014) to be prepared for the grant implementation.
13.	The applicant assures that a minimum of 50% of the funds awarded will be spent within the first four months of the grant period (i.e., October 1, 2014-February 1, 2015), and that 100% of the funds will be expended no later than the end of the 1 <sup>st</sup> year of the grant period (i.e. August 31, 2015) to ensure full program implementation through August 31, 2016.
14.	The applicant agrees to collect and report the data for the performance measures stated in the Program Guidelines under Program Evaluation. The applicant assures it will develop appropriate systems and processes to collect and report the required data.

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By TEA staff person:

**Schedule #5—Program Executive Summary**

County-district number or vendor ID: 015915

Amendment # (for amendments only):

Provide a brief overview of the program you plan to deliver. Refer to the instructions for a description of the requested elements of the summary. Response is limited to space provided, front side only, font size no smaller than 10 point Arial.

**Program Outline:** Northside Independent School District (NISD) is applying for funding under the 2014-2016 Technology Lending Program Grant, in order to close the achievement gap created by limited access to the internet and other electronic educational resources for third through ninth-grade students of Northwest Crossing Elementary, John B. Connally Middle, and William H. Taft High schools. More than half, approximately 57%, of the students at these campuses come from economically disadvantaged households, and are therefore less likely to have in-home access to computers and the internet, which are required to access the electronic instructional materials provided by the District. This creates a barrier to academic success that is evident through lower-than-expected STAAR math and reading scores, across most grade levels, for the students of this campus feeder pattern. The goal of this proposed lending program, to provide students with constant access to the internet and electronic educational resources, align closely with NISD's technology goals, to inspire and empower students, staff, and community through collaboration and anytime/anywhere technology solutions.

**Development of Program Budget:** The NISD lending program seeks to provide as many students as possible with access to both the internet and portable computer devices. The District determined that an optimum solution for our program involved separate Chromebook computer and MiFi internet hotspot devices, due to cost considerations and the likelihood that some students will have access to the internet in their home, but not to a computer system. The total populations and economically disadvantaged percentages for the three participating campuses were analyzed to determine the minimum number of Chromebook devices that would be required to provide an impactful level of service for each campus. Remaining funds were allocated to providing internet service for program participants. NISD was able to negotiate an agreement for 4G MiFi hotspot devices that waived equipment costs, provided unlimited data service, and was competitively priced versus other local internet providers. Grant funds were adequate to provide internet access for approximately 60% of all program Chromebooks, which is sufficient to meet the needs of participating students.

**Alignment of Participant Demographics with Program Goals:** The campuses selected for participation in this program are predominantly Hispanic, predominately economically disadvantaged, and academically perform below District expectations on STAAR tests. Based upon the 2012 paper, "Internet Use Among Racial/ Ethnic Groups In The United States", and the US Census Bureau's 2013 report, "Computer and Internet Use in the United States", Hispanic and economically challenged households are less likely to have access to computers and the internet, less likely to be proficient in the use of computers or technology, and more likely to struggle in 21<sup>st</sup> century learning environments. This proposed program provides the students of the participating campuses with access to computers and the internet, in their homes and in the classroom, in order to build the social capital and academic skills required for success in the modern classroom. The program utilizes a priority point system to maintain equitable access for all students, while prioritizing the sub populations most likely to demonstrate a need for computer and internet access at home.

**Needs Assessment Development, Monitoring, and Updating Process:** The needs assessment process was developed in collaboration between the Principals of the participating campuses; relevant department directors, and other program stakeholders. Student demographics, academic performance, and campus technology capacity were all considered while determining programmatic needs. Ongoing monitoring of program efficacy will be provided by the District's Grants Project Manager, who will meet with relevant program stakeholders on a monthly basis to evaluate the program's ongoing success. If changes to the program are deemed necessary, the Grant Project Manager and program stakeholders will collaboratively develop an action plan and implementation time table to address the identified needs.

**Program Management Plan:** NISD has an extensive and successful history of managing an array of Federal and State funded projects due to established structures and procedures that rely on broad-based management and participation. Through planning, writing, and implementation, NISD relies on the Grants Project Manager to identify, convene and communicate with relevant stakeholders and staff. This collaboration regularly includes relevant Deputy Superintendent(s), Director(s), Program Specialist(s), Principal(s) and Evaluation Specialist(s). By involving all stakeholders consistently throughout the life cycle of the grant, NISD is able to efficiently and effectively implement grants, ensure all goals and objectives are met and adjust original proposals, as-needed, to maximize program potential and impact.

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**Schedule #5—Program Executive Summary (cont.)**

County-district number or vendor ID: 015915

Amendment # (for amendments only):

Provide a brief overview of the program you plan to deliver. Refer to the instructions for a description of the requested elements of the summary. Response is limited to space provided, front side only, font size no smaller than 10 point Arial.

**Program Evaluation Strategy:** The NISD Grant Evaluator will provide program level data that will monitor student usage, pre- and post-program surveys, student achievements, and attendance. Data will be collected using District attendance, student, and library records, as well as a Google spreadsheet which will track student usage of program equipment. The Grants Project Manager will monitor professional development records, associated program databases, and equipment inventories, using relevant District records and resources.

**Fulfillment of Statutory Requirements:** NISD addresses statutory requirement #1 by establishing a lending program that enhances the use of electronic instructional materials for students at Northwest Crossing ES, Connally MS, and Taft HS. Grant funds will be used to provide 120 Samsung Chromebook computers and 81 portable MiFi 4G internet hotspot devices to the participating campuses. The Chromebook devices are heavily integrated with Google Apps for Education, which the District has already adopted for student usage, and are compatible with the existing educational software that NISD utilizes for grades three through nine. District Campus Instructional Technologists (CIT) and/or Technology Support Specialists (TSS) will provide ongoing training and support to participating teachers to ensure that all electronic instructional materials are optimally integrated with both classroom and home-based assignments. NISD addresses statutory requirement #2 by certifying that the District has not previously, nor is currently purchasing, additional lending equipment through other funding sources, such as the Instructional Materials Allotment. NISD further certifies that, should additional funds become allocated for the lending program, they will be used in a cohesive manner with the existing lending program.

**Fulfillment of TEA Requirements:** This program aligns with the existing mission and goals of NISD, by empowering student success with anytime/anywhere connectivity to educational resource. It prioritizes the campuses with the greatest demonstrated academic need and provides an efficient means of providing internet in the homes of needy students, by utilizing cost-effective mobile devices. By increasing access to existing electronic curriculum components and classroom management techniques, this grant aligns with the existing curriculum and instruction goals of NISD. This proposed program will enable participating teachers to more fully integrate existing electronic instructional materials into their classrooms, by eliminating concerns that certain students might not be able to participate or would be placed at a significant disadvantage. NISD will provide, at minimum, three hours of professional development for participating teachers and staff. Ongoing training will be provided by the CIT or Academic Technology Coach at each campus. NISD has demonstrated an adequate technology infrastructure capable of supporting a lending program through successful Bring Your Own Device pilot programs at multiple campuses. Internet access student homes will be provided with wireless 4G MiFi hotspot devices, which can be checked out by students along with program Chromebooks. NISD's Technology Services department, in conjunction with campus librarians, CITs and TSSs, and teachers will be able to provide students with sufficient technical support. Administration and check in/out of equipment will be provided by the campus librarian, student need will be prioritized by use of a priority point system. All program equipment will be coded, entered, and tracked using the campus and District library resource systems. NISD will develop a Technology Lending Agreement in full compliance with all TEA requirements.

**Ongoing Commitment:** This proposed program was collaboratively developed with the participating campuses and departments: Curriculum and Instruction; Academic Technology, Library & Textbook Services; Staff Development; and the Principals of each participating campus, to ensure buy-in at all levels of implementation. All participating campuses will additionally have the full support of NISD's Technology Department as well as their Campus Instructional Technologists and/or Academic Technology Coaches. The Grants Project Manager will work with the participating campuses and stakeholders to address any concerns or challenges, to ensure ongoing commitment to the program goals. This proposed lending program aligns with NISD's Technology Plan, on file with TEA, which ensures District-wide commitment and support for the duration of the program and beyond.

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By TEA staff person:

**Schedule #6—Program Budget Summary**

County-district number or vendor ID: 015915			Amendment # (for amendments only):		
Program authority: General Appropriations Act, Article III, Rider 8, 83rd Texas Legislature; Texas Education Code, Chapter 31, Section 31.021(f) and Chapter 32					
Grant period: October 1, 2014, to August 31, 2016			Fund code: 410		
<b>Budget Summary</b>					
Schedule #	Title	Class/ Object Code	Program Cost	Admin Cost	Total Budgeted Cost
Schedule #8	Professional and Contracted Services (6200)	6200	\$64,784	\$	\$64,784
Schedule #9	Supplies and Materials (6300)	6300	\$33,761	\$	\$33,761
Schedule #10	Other Operating Costs (6400)	6400	\$	\$	\$
Schedule #11	Capital Outlay (6600/15XX)	6600/ 15XX	\$	\$	\$
Total direct costs:			\$98,545	\$	\$
1.327% indirect costs (see note):			N/A	\$1,380	\$1,380
Grand total of budgeted costs (add all entries in each column):			<b>\$98,545</b>	<b>\$1,380</b>	<b>\$99,925</b>
<b>Administrative Cost Calculation</b>					
Enter the total grant amount requested:					\$98,545
Percentage limit on administrative costs established for the program (15%):					× .15
Multiply and round down to the nearest whole dollar. Enter the result.					\$14,782
This is the maximum amount allowable for administrative costs, including indirect costs:					

NOTE: Indirect costs are calculated and reimbursed based on actual expenditures when reported in the expenditure reporting system, regardless of the amount budgeted and approved in the grant application. If indirect costs are claimed, they are part of the total grant award amount. They are not in addition to the grant award amount.

Indirect costs are not required to be budgeted in the grant application in order to be charged to the grant. Do not submit an amendment solely for the purpose of budgeting indirect costs.

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**Schedule #8—Professional and Contracted Services (6200)**

County-district number or vendor ID: 015915

Amendment # (for amendments only):

**NOTE:** Specifying an individual vendor in a grant application does not meet the applicable requirements for sole-source providers. TEA's approval of such grant applications does not constitute approval of a sole-source provider.

Expense Item Description		Grant Amount Budgeted
6269	Rental or lease of buildings, space in buildings, or land Specify purpose:	\$
6299	Contracted publication and printing costs (specific approval required only for nonprofits) Specify purpose:	\$
62XX	ESC charges as per approved cost allocation plan, such as internal service fund. To be completed by ESC only when ESC is the applicant. Check all that apply: <input type="checkbox"/> Salaries/benefits <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <input type="checkbox"/> Networking (LAN) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <input type="checkbox"/> Computer/office equipment lease <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <input type="checkbox"/> Building use <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <input type="checkbox"/> Copier/duplication services <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <input type="checkbox"/> Telephone <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <input type="checkbox"/> Administrative <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	\$
a. Subtotal of professional and contracted services (6200) costs requiring specific approval:		\$

**Professional Services, Contracted Services, or Subgrants Less Than \$10,000**

#	Description of Service and Purpose	Check If Subgrant	Grant Amount Budgeted
1		<input type="checkbox"/>	\$
2		<input type="checkbox"/>	\$
3		<input type="checkbox"/>	\$
4		<input type="checkbox"/>	\$
5		<input type="checkbox"/>	\$
6		<input type="checkbox"/>	\$
7		<input type="checkbox"/>	\$
8		<input type="checkbox"/>	\$
9		<input type="checkbox"/>	\$
10		<input type="checkbox"/>	\$
b. Subtotal of professional services, contracted services, or subgrants less than \$10,000:			\$

**Professional Services, Contracted Services, or Subgrants Greater Than or Equal to \$10,000**

Specify topic/purpose/service: 4G Internet Service		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, this is a subgrant
Describe topic/purpose/service: 81 MiFi devices with 20 months of 4G cellular internet service		
<b>Contractor's Cost Breakdown of Service to Be Provided</b>		<b>Grant Amount Budgeted</b>
1	Contractor's payroll costs      # of positions:	\$
	Contractor's subgrants, subcontracts, subcontracted services	\$64,784
	Contractor's supplies and materials	\$
	Contractor's other operating costs	\$
	Contractor's capital outlay (allowable for subgrants only)	\$
Total budget:		\$

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**Schedule #8—Professional and Contracted Services (6200)**

County-District Number or Vendor ID: 015915

Amendment number (for amendments only):

**Professional Services, Contracted Services, or Subgrants Greater Than or Equal to \$10,000 (cont.)**

2	Specify topic/purpose/service:		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, this is a subgrant
	Describe topic/purpose/service:		
	<b>Contractor's Cost Breakdown of Service to Be Provided</b>		<b>Grant Amount Budgeted</b>
	Contractor's payroll costs	# of positions:	\$
	Contractor's subgrants, subcontracts, subcontracted services		\$
	Contractor's supplies and materials		\$
	Contractor's other operating costs		\$
	Contractor's capital outlay (allowable for subgrants only)		\$
Total budget:		\$	
3	Specify topic/purpose/service:		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, this is a subgrant
	Describe topic/purpose/service:		
	<b>Contractor's Cost Breakdown of Service to Be Provided</b>		<b>Grant Amount Budgeted</b>
	Contractor's payroll costs	# of positions:	\$
	Contractor's subgrants, subcontracts, subcontracted services		\$
	Contractor's supplies and materials		\$
	Contractor's other operating costs		\$
	Contractor's capital outlay (allowable for subgrants only)		\$
Total budget:		\$	
4	Specify topic/purpose/service:		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, this is a subgrant
	Describe topic/purpose/service:		
	<b>Contractor's Cost Breakdown of Service to Be Provided</b>		<b>Grant Amount Budgeted</b>
	Contractor's payroll costs	# of positions:	\$
	Contractor's subgrants, subcontracts, subcontracted services		\$
	Contractor's supplies and materials		\$
	Contractor's other operating costs		\$
	Contractor's capital outlay (allowable for subgrants only)		\$
Total budget:		\$	
5	Specify topic/purpose/service:		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, this is a subgrant
	Describe topic/purpose/service:		
	<b>Contractor's Cost Breakdown of Service to Be Provided</b>		<b>Grant Amount Budgeted</b>
	Contractor's payroll costs	# of positions:	\$
	Contractor's subgrants, subcontracts, subcontracted services		\$
	Contractor's supplies and materials		\$
	Contractor's other operating costs		\$
	Contractor's capital outlay (allowable for subgrants only)		\$
Total budget:		\$	

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<b>Schedule #8—Professional and Contracted Services (6200)</b>			
County-District Number or Vendor ID: 015915		Amendment number (for amendments only):	
<b>Professional Services, Contracted Services, or Subgrants Greater Than or Equal to \$10,000 (cont.)</b>			
6	Specify topic/purpose/service:		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, this is a subgrant
	Describe topic/purpose/service:		
	<b>Contractor's Cost Breakdown of Service to Be Provided</b>		<b>Grant Amount Budgeted</b>
	Contractor's payroll costs	# of positions:	\$
	Contractor's subgrants, subcontracts, subcontracted services		\$
	Contractor's supplies and materials		\$
	Contractor's other operating costs		\$
	Contractor's capital outlay (allowable for subgrants only)		\$
Total budget:		\$	
7	Specify topic/purpose/service:		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, this is a subgrant
	Describe topic/purpose/service:		
	<b>Contractor's Cost Breakdown of Service to Be Provided</b>		<b>Grant Amount Budgeted</b>
	Contractor's payroll costs	# of positions:	\$
	Contractor's subgrants, subcontracts, subcontracted services		\$
	Contractor's supplies and materials		\$
	Contractor's other operating costs		\$
	Contractor's capital outlay (allowable for subgrants only)		\$
Total budget:		\$	
8	Specify topic/purpose/service:		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, this is a subgrant
	Describe topic/purpose/service:		
	<b>Contractor's Cost Breakdown of Service to Be Provided</b>		<b>Grant Amount Budgeted</b>
	Contractor's payroll costs	# of positions:	\$
	Contractor's subgrants, subcontracts, subcontracted services		\$
	Contractor's supplies and materials		\$
	Contractor's other operating costs		\$
	Contractor's capital outlay (allowable for subgrants only)		\$
Total budget:		\$	
c. Subtotal of professional services, contracted services, and subgrants greater than or equal to \$10,000:		\$64,784	
a. Subtotal of professional services, contracted services, and subgrant costs requiring specific approval:		\$	
b. Subtotal of professional services, contracted services, or subgrants less than \$10,000:		\$	
c. Subtotal of professional services, contracted services, and subgrants greater than or equal to \$10,000:		\$64,784	
d. Remaining 6200—Professional services, contracted services, or subgrants that do not require specific approval:		\$	
(Sum of lines a, b, c, and d) Grand total		\$64,784	

For a list of unallowable costs and costs that do not require specific approval, see the guidance posted on the Division of Grants Administration [Grant Management Resources](#) page.

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<b>Schedule #9—Supplies and Materials (6300)</b>						
County-District Number or Vendor ID: 015915				Amendment number (for amendments only):		
<b>Expense Item Description</b>						
63XX	ESC charges as per approved cost allocation plan, such as internal service fund. To be completed by ESC only when ESC is the applicant. Check all that apply:					<b>Grant Amount Budgeted</b>
	<input type="checkbox"/> Print shop fees	<input type="checkbox"/> Technology-related supplies	\$			
	<input type="checkbox"/> Postage	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:				
	<input type="checkbox"/> Copy paper	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:				
6399	<b>Technology Hardware—Not Capitalized</b>					
	<b>#</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Unit Cost</b>	<b>Grant Amount Budgeted</b>
	1	Samsung Chromebook	Lending device for student home and classroom usage.	120	\$267.84	\$32,141
	2				\$	
	3				\$	
	4				\$	
	5				\$	
6399	Technology software—Not capitalized					\$32,141
6399	Supplies and materials associated with advisory council or committee					\$
Subtotal supplies and materials requiring specific approval:					\$	
Remaining 6300—Supplies and materials that do not require specific approval:					\$1,620	
<b>Grand total:</b>					<b>\$33,761</b>	

For a list of unallowable costs and costs that do not require specific approval, see the guidance posted on the Division of Grants Administration [Grant Management Resources](#) page.

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**Schedule #12—Demographics and Participants to Be Served with Grant Funds**

County-district number or vendor ID: 015915

Amendment # (for amendments only):

**Part 1: Student Demographics.** Enter the data requested for the population to be served by this grant program. If data is not available, enter DNA. Use the comments section to add a description of any data not specifically requested that is important to understanding the population to be served by this grant program.

**Total enrollment:**

Category	Number	Percentage	Category	Percentage
African American	302	N/A	Attendance rate	95.79 %
Hispanic	3032	N/A	Annual dropout rate (Gr 9-12)	0.3 %
White	937	N/A	TAKS met 2011 standard, all tests (sum of all grades tested; standard accountability indicator)	N/A
Asian	129	N/A	TAKS commended 2011 performance, all tests (sum of all grades tested)	N/A
Economically disadvantaged	2286	57 %	Students taking the ACT and/or SAT	N/A
Limited English proficient (LEP)	197	0.04 %	Average SAT score (number value, not a percentage)	N/A
Disciplinary placements	66	0.01 %	Average ACT score (number value, not a percentage)	N/A

**Comments**

**Part 2: Students to Be Served with Grant Funds.** Enter the number of students in each grade, by type of school, projected to be served under the grant program.

School Type	PK (3-4)	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total
Public	0	0	0	0	107	84	107	332	354	391	759				1113
Open-enrollment charter school															
Public institution															
Private nonprofit															
Private for-profit															
<b>TOTAL:</b>															

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**Schedule #13—Needs Assessment**

County-district number or vendor ID: 015915

Amendment # (for amendments only):

**Part 1: Process Description.** A needs assessment is a systematic process for identifying and prioritizing needs, with "need" defined as the difference between current achievement and desired or required accomplishment. Describe your needs assessment process, including a description of how needs are prioritized. Response is limited to space provided, front side only. Use Arial font, no smaller than 10 point.

The Northside Independent School District (NISD) has developed a comprehensive District Technology Plan for 2014-2015 that places a strong emphasis on preparing students for 21<sup>st</sup> century learning. The mission of the NISD Technology Plan is to empower students, staff, and community through collaboration and anytime/anywhere solutions. The Technology Plan supports NISD's overall mission, to empower each student to strive for personal excellence and to ensure all students learn to function, contribute, and compete as responsible individuals in an ever-changing world. As NISD continues to evaluate and adopt emerging technologies, achievement gaps have begun to appear between students who have, and those who do not have, regular access to computer systems and the internet. Every classroom in the District is equipped with internet connected desktop computer systems, in order to promote equity and provide access to electronic educational resources. However, students without home access are still placed at a distinct disadvantage when compared to their peers. Inadequate access to home and classroom technology further disadvantage students with special needs, due to the inability of traditional educational materials to be tailored to meet their specific educational requirements. These factors combine to create significantly lower District-wide State of Texas Assessment of Academic Readiness (STAAR) pass rates for economically disadvantaged and special education students.

<b>2013 Percentage of Met Standard for STAAR Final Level II</b>				
	<b>State</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Special Ed</b>	<b>Econ. Disadvantaged</b>
<b>All Subjects</b>	35%	39%	26%	30%
<b>Mathematics</b>	34%	38%	27%	29%
<b>Reading</b>	41%	46%	30%	36%

The District considered this achievement gap when selecting campuses for participation in this program. Regression analysis, which predicts where a school's passing rate should be based on their percentage of economically disadvantaged students, was performed to analyze District-wide performance on the 2013 STAAR tests. Analysis of scores revealed disproportionately low performance in the subjects of reading and math at three campuses that formed a common feeder-pattern. Most notably for mathematics, fourth grade students at Northwest Crossing ES were more than 10 percentage points below expectation, Connally MS sixth grade students were 4.9 points below expectation, and Taft HS Geometry scores were 5.7 points beneath expected performance. Fourth grade Reading scores were 2.2 points below expectation, and all Reading and Writing EOC scores at Taft HS fell between 1.7 and 3.4 points below anticipated performance levels. Based upon the analysis of scores and regression figures, NISD selected three campuses: Northwest Crossing Elementary, John B. Connally Middle, and William H. Taft High school, to participate in the technology lending pilot. Students from grades three through nine will be eligible to participate in the program. The subjects of Math and Reading were selected as priority areas, because of their consistently low scores across all grade levels and their importance in supporting other academic areas, such as Science and Social Studies.

A technology lending program is needed at the targeted campuses to bridge the digital divide between economically disadvantaged and special education students, and their peers. Without the increased access to electronic instructional materials that in-home access to computers and the internet provide, economically disadvantaged and special education students at these campuses will not be able to increase their academic outcomes and build the technology skills required for success in 21<sup>st</sup> century classrooms. NISD's proposed lending program aligns with the District's technology goals and ensures that all NISD students have access to the same anytime/anywhere instruction opportunities.

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By TEA staff person:

**Schedule #13—Needs Assessment (cont.)**

County-district number or vendor ID: 015915

Amendment # (for amendments only):

**Part 2: Alignment with Grant Goals and Objectives.** List your top five needs, in rank order of assigned priority. Describe how those needs would be effectively addressed by implementation of this grant program. Response is limited to space provided, front side only. Use Arial font, no smaller than 10 point.

#	Identified Need	How Implemented Grant Program Would Address
1.	<b>Access to Technology:</b> Economically disadvantaged students at the selected campuses are less likely to have access to computers and the internet in their homes than their peers.	This grant program will provide 120 Chromebook computers and 60 MiFi 4G hotspot access cards for student usage. The devices will be checked out on a rotating basis, which will provide more than 120 students with the opportunity to experience computer and internet access in the home.
2.	<b>Professional Development and Collaboration:</b> Teachers and staff in NISD require ongoing training and support on the proper use and implementation of electronic instructional materials in the classroom.	NISD currently has a robust professional development strategy and, in alignment with the District's Technology Plan, has placed a focus on developing our teaching staff's skills and competencies with electronic instructional materials. This grant program will ensure that teachers are able to apply what they learn in a real world setting. Additionally, feedback from this grant program will allow for further refinement of NISD's training program.
3.	<b>Technology Application Proficiency:</b> Students require exposure to a variety of digital devices and applications to build technology literacy in order to support life-long learning.	This program will provide students with access to laptop computers and mobile hotspot devices which, in conjunction with NISD's diverse selection of classroom technology devices, will enable students to develop a diverse understanding of digital technology. By allowing these devices to accompany students home, participating teachers can utilize greater numbers of online resources, which will prepare students for life-long learning.
4.	<b>Student Academic Performance:</b> Students at the targeted campuses have math and reading STAAR scores are below anticipated levels with respect to their percentages of economically disadvantaged students.	The lending devices provided under this program will enable students with the greatest need to gain access to electronic intervention and learning programs. The devices will be available at home and in the classroom, enabling students to benefit from increased instructional time and support while completing homework and projects. As a result, student STAAR scores will increase.
5.	<b>Educational Support:</b> Students with special needs often require additional educational support in order to achieve their fullest academic potential.	This grant program will provide lending devices that will assist special needs students in the classroom and at home. The flexibility of electronic instructional materials make them ideally suited for use under the diverse individualized education plans utilized in NISD special education classrooms. Enabling students to continue having access to such devices while at home, will provide continuity while increasing academic support.

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**Schedule #14—Management Plan**

County-district number or vendor ID: 015915

Amendment # (for amendments only):

**Part 1: Staff Qualifications.** List the titles of the primary project personnel and any external consultants projected to be involved in the implementation and delivery of the program, along with desired qualifications, experience, and any requested certifications. Response is limited to space provided, front side only. Use Arial font, no smaller than 10 point.

#	Title	Desired Qualifications, Experience, Certifications
1.	Director of Academic Technology	The Academic Technology Director will supervise all technology associated with this program, and has a Master's in Education with an emphasis in Instructional Technology. Duties include: Oversight for program equipment, overseeing check in/out procedures and device maintenance.
2.	Grants Project Manager	Tracks grant expenditures, ensuring that all funds are allocated to support stated grant activities and collaborates with stakeholders' in achieving the program goals and objectives. Professional experience includes program evaluation and program management. Duties include: Program oversight, reporting, and facilitating communication between stakeholders.
3.	Grant Evaluator	This position does not participate in the implementation of the grant, but will oversee all data collection, analysis, and research. The Grant Evaluator has a bachelor's degree in Economics, a Master's in Business Administration and extensive grant evaluation experience.
4.	Campus Librarian	Will provide campus level program coordination. All Librarians are certified Texas Teachers and hold Master's level degrees. Duties include: Supervising check in/out procedures, coordinating device maintenance and supporting student academic goals.
5.	Campus Technologist(s)	Provides oversight and training regarding integrating technology into the classroom. District CITs are Texas certified Teachers and are specialists in Technology Integration. Duties include: Device maintenance, supporting Teachers with classroom implementation, and technical support.

**Part 2: Milestones and Timeline.** Summarize the major objectives of the planned project, along with defined milestones and projected timelines. Response is limited to space provided, front side only. Use Arial font, no smaller than 10 point.

#	Objective	Milestone	Begin Activity	End Activity
1.	Provide 95% of program teachers and librarians with professional development	1. Develop classroom technology resource training program	09/01/2014	8/31/2016
		2. Deliver minimum of 3 hours of classroom technology focused profession development per year	09/01/2014	8/31/2016
		3. Train participating librarians and teachers on check-out and check-in procedures	12/01/2014	8/31/2016
2.	Build campus capacity for technology lending program	1. Purchase 120 Chromebooks and 81 MIFI hotspots	10/01/2014	12/01/2014
		2. Enter devices into campus library resource system	10/01/2014	12/01/2014
		3. Configure devices for CIPA compliance	10/01/2014	08/31/2016
		4. Ongoing maintenance/repair/support	10/01/2014	08/31/2016
3.	Prepare students for technology lending program	1. Identify priority students	10/01/2014	08/31/2016
		2. Priority student outreach efforts	10/01/2014	08/31/2016
		3. Obtain parent and student usage agreement forms	10/01/2014	08/31/2016
		4. Provide student training on device usage	10/01/2014	08/31/2016
		5. Ongoing check-in/check-out process	10/01/2014	08/31/2016
4.	Support Student Technology competencies and Math and Reading academic achievement	1. Student pre and post surveys	10/01/2014	08/31/2016
		2. Ongoing monitoring, reporting, and data collection	10/01/2014	08/31/2016

**Grant funds will be used to pay only for activities occurring between the beginning and ending dates of the grant, as specified on the Notice of Grant Award.**

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**Schedule #14—Management Plan (cont.)**

County-district number or vendor ID: 015915	Amendment # (for amendments only):
<p><b>Part 3: Feedback and Continuous Improvement.</b> Describe the process and procedures your organization currently has in place for monitoring the attainment of goals and objectives. Include a description of how the plan for attaining goals and objectives is adjusted when necessary and how changes are communicated to administrative staff, teachers, students, parents, and members of the community. Response is limited to space provided, front side only. Use Arial font, no smaller than 10 point.</p> <p>Northside (NISD) has an extensive and successful history of managing an array of Federal and State funded projects due to established structures and procedures that rely on broad-based management and participation. Through planning, writing and implementation, NISD relies on the Grants Project Manager to identify, convene and communicate with relevant stakeholders and staff. This collaboration regularly includes relevant Deputy Superintendent(s), Director(s), Program Specialist(s), Principal(s) and Evaluation Specialist(s). By involving all stakeholders consistently throughout the life cycle of the grant, NISD is able to efficiently and effectively implement grants, ensure all goals and objectives are met and adjust original proposals, as-needed, to maximize program potential and impact. The diversity of knowledge, experience and expertise represented through the process ensures that all proposals are considered and approved by a variety of interests. The following are grant management protocols that are observed in NISD:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• District and campus leadership commit to targeted goals and objectives prior to grant submission,</li> <li>• District Evaluation Specialist ensures that all grants have measureable outcomes and creates evaluation timelines to measure project goals,</li> <li>• Grants Project Manager creates internal timelines that are approved by all relevant stakeholders,</li> <li>• Deputy Superintendent(s) and Director(s) are assigned to oversee grant and communicate grant importance and relevance to targeted groups throughout the project period,</li> <li>• Upon award, monthly grant management meetings are scheduled to assess grant progress and expenditures,</li> <li>• All proposed project changes are approved by initial stakeholder group to ensure compliance and execution of action.</li> </ul> <p>The culture of NISD compliments this team approach, as senior staff work alongside campus and project staff to contribute to the success of all projects.</p>	
<p><b>Part 4: Sustainability and Commitment.</b> Describe any ongoing, existing efforts that are similar or related to the planned project. How will you coordinate efforts to maximize effectiveness of grant funds? How will you ensure that all project participants remain committed to the project's success? Response is limited to space provided, front side only. Use Arial font, no smaller than 10 point.</p> <p><b>Ongoing Related Efforts:</b></p> <p>NISD does not have a current technology lending program. The District does, however, have multiple ongoing Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) programs which demonstrate sufficient technology infrastructure to support a lending program. NISD currently offers numerous software solutions, online databases, and emerging technologies that are directly applicable to the goals of this lending program. NISD additionally offers on-going and robust technology related professional development opportunities to all campus teachers and staff.</p> <p><b>Plan to Coordinate Efforts for Maximum Effectiveness:</b></p> <p>The Grants Project Manager, in conjunction with campus librarians and participating teachers, will ensure that resources are being utilized by students and that students demonstrating the greatest need are prioritized for access to the devices. Campus Instructional Technologists and/or Academic Technology Coaches will work directly with participating teachers to ensure that all curriculum takes full advantage of available lending technology. The participating campuses compose a complete feeder pattern, which reduces the potential for duplication of grant services in households with participating students in multiple grade levels.</p> <p><b>How will you ensure commitment:</b></p> <p>This proposed program was collaboratively developed with the participating campuses and departments: Curriculum and Instruction; Academic Technology, Library &amp; Textbook Services; Staff Development; and the Principals of each participating campus, to ensure buy-in at all levels of implementation. All participating campuses will additionally have the full support of NISD's Technology Department as well as their Campus Instructional Technologists and/or Academic Technology Coaches. The Grants Project Manager will work with the participating campuses and stakeholders to address any concerns or challenges, to ensure ongoing commitment to the program remains beneficial for all stakeholders. The proposed project aligns with NISD's Technology Plan, on file with TEA, which ensures District-wide commitment and support for the duration of the program.</p>	

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**Schedule #15—Project Evaluation**

County-district number or vendor ID: 015915

Amendment # (for amendments only):

**Part 1: Evaluation Design.** List the methods and processes you will use on an ongoing basis to examine the effectiveness of project strategies, including the indicators of program accomplishment that are associated with each. Response is limited to space provided, front side only. Use Arial font, no smaller than 10 point.

#	Evaluation Method/Process	Associated Indicator of Accomplishment	
1.	Develop/Maintain Student Database	1.	Students who checked out a device
		2.	Participating economically disadvantaged students
		3.	Economically disadvantaged students who had Internet access available in their residences as part of the program
2.	Develop/Maintain Course Database	1.	Number and names of courses using digital content
		2.	Titles of digital materials used within courses as part of the grant
		3.	Online courses taken by students as a result of the program as applicable
3.	Develop/Maintain Teacher Database	1.	Teachers who leveraged electronic instructional materials to students as a result of the technology lending program
4.	Develop/Maintain Technology Inventory	1.	Ratio of technology devices to students needing devices
5.	Administer Student Pre- and Post-Tests	1.	Students who demonstrate proficiency on the Technology Applications TEKS

**Part 2: Data Collection and Problem Correction.** Describe the processes for collecting data that are included in the evaluation design, including program-level data such as program activities and the number of participants served, and student-level academic data, including achievement results and attendance data. How are problems with project delivery to be identified and corrected throughout the project? Response is limited to space provided, front side only. Use Arial font, no smaller than 10 point.

**Program Level Data Collection** – The NISD Grants Project Manager will monitor all program activities, including: Professional development progress, student device check out/in records, the total number of participating students served, student academic data, and facilitate meetings of stakeholders. The NISD Grant Evaluator will create required databases of student participation with related demographics, course data, and teacher activities. The Grant Evaluator will compare the inventory of devices to students levels at each campus, to determine device ratios.

**Student Level Data** –Pre- and post-tests, administered at the campus level, will be used to collect data from all participating campuses regarding student achievements, participation, and attendance. Campus Librarians will oversee daily check out/in of devices and ensure that usage data is recorded in associated databases.

**Identification of Problems with Program Implementation** – The evaluation plan for this program incorporates both qualitative and quantitative data to ensure a comprehensive and balanced record of implementation and impact. Student data will be continuously disaggregated to determine the needs and outcomes of each participating campus. Monthly stakeholder meetings will ensure that the Grants Project Manager is able to identify programmatic issues as they arise.

**Correction of Program Issues** – After the identification of an issue with program implementation, the Grants Project Manager will coordinate with relevant program staff and stakeholders to develop and implement an action plan to resolve the identified problem(s).

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**Schedule #16—Responses to Statutory Requirements**

County-district number or vendor ID: 015915

Amendment # (for amendments only):

**Statutory Requirement 1:** Applicant must describe how it will use funds to implement or enhance a technology lending program to loan students the equipment necessary to access and use electronic instructional materials. Response is limited to space provided, front side only. Use Arial font, no smaller than 10 point.

NISD is proposing to implement a comprehensive technology lending pilot program that will maximize the number of participants while limiting potential duplication of services. Three campuses have been selected for participation, all of which serve the same geographic region. This new initiative builds upon the success of the District's previous Bring Your Own Device and classroom-based iPad lending pilots.

Grant funds will be utilized to purchase 120 Samsung Chromebook devices, 81 MiFi portable internet hotspot devices, and protective carrying cases for the Chromebooks. Chromebook devices were selected because of their low cost; long battery life; and integration with Google Apps for Education, which NISD has in place for student usage. Chromebooks provide a full-sized keyboard which was determined to be superior, versus onscreen virtual keyboards offered by tablet devices. MiFi portable hotspots were selected because of their superior mobility and the ease at which they can be checked in and out of an existing library collection. The District was able to successfully negotiate unlimited data usage for the devices, which alleviates concerns regarding data-overage charges, and to waive associated equipment charges. The lending devices will be filtered to comply with federal Child Internet Protection Act (CIPA) requirements.

NISD chose to utilize separate devices for student productivity and internet access for several reasons. Chromebook computers are significantly less expensive than devices with integrated 4G antennas. This enables significantly more devices to be purchased, and more students to be served. A single MiFi hotspot can provide internet access for multiple devices, which allows one hotspot to serve siblings who each checked out individual Chromebooks from separate participating campuses. Separate computer and internet devices better serve families who have multiple children and can provide their own internet access, but only one computer in the home. In cases like this, students can check out a Chromebook to augment the existing computer resources in the home, allowing multiple students to simultaneously access electronic instructional materials.

These devices will be divided among the three participating campuses, based upon overall and economically disadvantaged student populations, and added to their respective library catalogs. Students will be allowed to check out one Chromebook and one MiFi device from their campus library at a time. Campus Librarians will oversee routine care and maintenance of the devices and Campus Instructional Technologists (CITs) and/or Technology Support Specialists (TSS) will troubleshoot and provide repairs as necessary.

CITs/TSSs will work closely with participating teachers to provide ongoing professional development and support, as well as ensuring that the lending devices are being fully utilized in classrooms. Teachers will integrate District provided electronic instructional materials into their lesson plans and include internet-based content in their homework assignments. Teachers will be able to temporarily reserve devices for individualized, small group, or whole group instruction, in accordance with campus library policy, as needed. Technical support for the devices will be provided by a combination of classroom teachers, library staff, District Technology staff, and third-party internet service providers. Students will receive a brief training on the usage of program devices when they first participate in the lending program. An instruction and quick start guide will be included with the devices at the time of checkout as a reference tool for use when the student is not on campus.

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**Schedule #16—Responses to Statutory Requirements**

County-district number or vendor ID: 015915

Amendment # (for amendments only):

**Statutory Requirement 2:** If the applicant has already purchased, or is also purchasing, lending equipment through other funding sources such as the Instructional Materials Allotment, the applicant must describe how equipment from all funding sources will be used in a cohesive manner to support efforts to ensure students have dedicated access to a technology device. Response is limited to space provided, front side only. Use Arial font, no smaller than 10 point.

NISD does not currently intend to use other funding sources to purchase additional lending devices at this time. Local funds are being considered for charging and storage carts at each campus, should a need become evident. In the event that the decision to acquire additional devices be made, the Grants Project Manager and relevant stakeholders will determine a cohesive strategy regarding how to best integrate additional technology devices into the existing program.

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**Schedule #17—Responses to TEA Program Requirements**

County-district number or vendor ID: 015915

Amendment # (for amendments only):

**TEA Program Requirement 1:** Applicant must describe how the lending program aligns with existing mission and goals of the public school district or open-enrollment charter school. Response is limited to space provided, front side only. Use Arial font, no smaller than 10 point.

The mission of the Northside Independent School District is to encourage each student to strive for personal excellence and to ensure all students learn to function, contribute, and compete as responsible individuals in an ever-changing world. The mission of the NISD Technology plan is to inspire and empower students, staff, and community through collaboration and anytime/anywhere solutions. This proposed lending program aligns with both of these mission statements by empowering students of the selected schools to access instructional tools at any time of day or night. Providing access to online resources prepares participating students for academic success by providing the knowledge and tools required for life-long self-instruction.

The proposed grant program aligns with goals 1 and 2 of the current NISD Technology Plan:

Goal 1: Ensure that all students demonstrate relevant information, communications, and technology competencies necessary for digital-age literacy.

Goal 2: Infuse appropriate instructional technologies throughout the curriculum to engage students, differentiate instruction, and strengthen learning and achievement.

This program will facilitate these goals by providing students with the tools necessary to develop relevant technology competencies and will ensure that participating classrooms are able to fully utilize instructional technologies without excluding students. Further, as a pilot program, it will demonstrate the feasibility of technology lending projects and future adoption of related practices.

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**Schedule #17—Responses to TEA Program Requirements**

County-district number or vendor ID: 015915

Amendment # (for amendments only):

**TEA Program Requirement 2:** Applicant must describe how it will prioritize campuses with the highest need for a technology lending program. Applicant must also describe how it will ensure access to lending equipment and residential access to the Internet among students who have the greatest need. Response is limited to space provided, front side only. Use Arial font, no smaller than 10 point.

Participation will take place at three specifically selected NISD campuses.

High School:

1. William Howard Taft High School

Middle School:

1. John B. Connally Middle School

Elementary School:

1. Northwest Crossing Elementary School

A goal of the NISD technology lending program is to prepare students for success in 21<sup>st</sup> century classrooms, universities, and industries. Students at the three proposed campuses have limited access to the electronic instructional materials required to achieve this goal. The lending devices provided by this proposed program will incorporate technology into classroom activities and provide the resources needed for students to continue academically based studies outside of the classroom.

**Community Needs:** The three selected sites have a combined economically disadvantaged population of **57%**. Within the 78250 zip code, where a majority of the selected campuses are located, only 22% of the community has a Bachelor's degree, 5% are unemployed, 18% have received public assistance with Food Stamp/SNAP benefits within the past 12 months, and 23% of the families' income is below the poverty level (*US Census Bureau's 2012 report*).

Many parents could not afford the cost of technology and internet connections at their home. **Campus/District Needs:** Overall data from the 2013 Spring STAAR results for the three eligible campuses documents a strong need for additional support in math and reading with a majority of the campuses scoring below the overall District average. NISD utilized regression analysis of STAAR scores versus the total campus percentage of economically disadvantaged students. The results of the regression charts were then analyzed to identify any existing trends across grade levels and interconnected campuses. The selected campuses from a **common feeder pattern** demonstrated the greatest deviation from the District STAAR score averages, with respect to their economically disadvantaged populations. Additionally, the core subject areas of Math, Reading, and Science consistently underperformed across these campuses, suggesting that the academic challenges facing students in this feeder pattern were not limited to a single campus.

Within the targeted population for this grant, there are 4,324 total students, **57%** are identified as economically disadvantaged and 10% are identified as special needs, with students identifying as 68% Hispanic, 20% White, 6% Black, 2% Asian/Pacific Islander, and 4% Two or More Races.

Due to limited resources, NISD is unable to provide devices at a 1:1 ratio. In order to ensure that lending equipment and internet access are made available to those students with the greatest need, the District decided to utilize a priority point system. Students in grades **third through ninth** will be awarded priority points as follows, points are cumulative for students who meet multiple criteria: Free lunch program (2 points), teacher referral (2 points), reduced lunch program (1 point), AVID program (1 point), Special Education program (1 point), students with disabilities (1 point). Students will be able reserve one Chromebook computer and/or one MiFi internet device at their campus library based upon their priority status. Unreserved devices will be accessible on a first-come first-served basis and follow standard library check out protocol once required agreement forms are on file. This system will ensure equitable and fair access to both Chromebook computers and home internet access, while ensuring that the students with the greatest demonstrated need are given priority.

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**Schedule #17—Responses to TEA Program Requirements (cont.)**

County-district number or vendor ID: 015915

Amendment # (for amendments only):

**TEA Program Requirement 3:** Applicant must describe how the lending program aligns with current curriculum, instruction, and classroom management policies and/or practices on its participating campus(es). Response is limited to space provided, front side only. Use Arial font, no smaller than 10 point.

The proposed lending program aligns with:

**Curriculum:**

The District selected the participating campuses based upon STAAR Math and Reading scores. At all participating campuses, student performance in math and reading was below expectation across tested grade levels. This indicates that students at these campuses require additional support developing the core skills required for success in these academic subject areas.

By providing students with access to lending technology, this program will reinforce the core academic skills needed for successful implementation of the District's math and reading curriculum. Students will benefit from increased academic support, in the form of interactive learning software and increased access to digital resources to assist in self-paced learning.

**Instruction:**

NISD currently utilizes many electronic resources as part of classroom instruction. These applications are used to reinforce learning and to provide students with intervention support when required. Currently, students without home computer and internet access are unable to access the instructional materials at home, which creates an achievement gap versus their peers. Lending technology provided by this program will enable students to benefit from these electronic resources inside and outside of the classroom. This will allow students to explore topics and identify trouble areas outside of the classroom, which will enable teachers to more efficiently utilize classroom instruction time. The lending devices provided by this program will provide participating students with equal access to all electronic instructional materials.

**Classroom management:**

Classroom teachers currently utilize a number of classroom management practices that align with the proposed lending program. Editable electronic class syllabuses and classroom rules agreements provide clear expectations for students, while increasing productivity by enabling students to prepare for a lesson ahead of time. Lending devices will build upon existing classroom management and organization policies, to increase classroom morale, build a sense of community, and foster student motivation.

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**Schedule #17—Responses to TEA Program Requirements (cont.)**

County-district number or vendor ID: 015915

Amendment # (for amendments only):

**TEA Program Requirement 4:** Applicant must describe how it is using electronic instructional materials in one or more foundation curriculum subject area(s) for one or more grade level(s). Response is limited to space provided, front side only. Use Arial font, no smaller than 10 point.

NISD currently utilizes a variety of electronic instructional materials to support and enhance student learning in the core subject areas of math and reading. At the targeted elementary campus, Northwest Crossing ES, the participating **grades three through five** currently utilize *Think Through Math*, *iStation Reading*, *STAAR Motivation Math*, *i-Ready*, and *Brain Pop* to promote and support student learning. At the participating middle school campus, Connally MS, **all grade levels** currently utilize *Think Through Math*, *i-Ready*, *Study Island*, and *Brain Pop*. Connally MS is moving forward with a BYOD policy which will enable staff to augment student devices with lending devices to more closely integrate these programs into the classroom. At the participating high school campus, Taft HS, the participating **ninth-grade** Algebra 1 class utilizes a flipped classroom model, where the teacher pre-records instructional videos which students view before attending class. These videos teach primary strategies and concepts, as well as serve as ongoing reference materials for students. Students are also able to utilize materials at *Purple Math*; the *Khan Academy*; and their textbook, through the Holt McDougal Online portal.

These materials are currently utilized as supplements to traditional classroom learning, due to concerns that some students will not be able to access the electronic materials outside of the classroom. Limited technology resources prohibit the required 1:1 ratio of devices to students that is required for full integration of electronic materials. Currently, as a result, students are selected to utilize chosen software as part of station-based classroom strategies, or as part of an academic intervention program for students who are demonstrating sufficient need.

With the availability of lending devices, however, teachers, Campus Instructional Technologists, and Academic Technology Coaches will be able to develop lesson plans that fully integrate these materials into classroom and at-home instruction. Additionally, the District is in the process of adopting new textbooks at all grade-levels that include supplementary electronic components. The availability of lending devices will ensure that all students are able to benefit from these interactive and dynamic materials.

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On this date:

Via telephone/fax/email (circle as appropriate)

By TEA staff person:

**Schedule #17—Responses to TEA Program Requirements (cont.)**

County-district number or vendor ID: 015915

Amendment # (for amendments only):

**TEA Program Requirement 5:** Applicant must describe professional development for teachers in the use of electronic instructional material that has already occurred or will occur within the first three months of the grant period (i.e., October 1, 2014-December 31, 2014) to be prepared for the grant implementation. Note: Any professional development that is provided within the grant period must be provided with non-grant funds. Response is limited to space provided, front side only. Use Arial font, no smaller than 10 point.

NISD has a highly successful professional development program for District staff and teachers. The mission of the Organizational and Staff Development (OSD) department is to serve teachers, administrators, staff and parents by providing quality professional learning opportunities, technical assistance, and systemic support to help them achieve increased effectiveness and improved job performance. OSD offers online, distance, and traditional development opportunities for staff.

Primary training for program staff will occur August, 2014, during back-to-school professional development session. These training sessions will cover topics including, but not limited to:

- The proper setup and use of program equipment
- Check out/in procedures
- Google Apps for Education
- The use of applicable instructional software

Participating teachers and librarians will complete, at minimum, three hours of development related to the implementation of this grant program each year. Campus Instructional Technologists (CITs) and/or Academic Technology Coaches (ATCs) will continue to work with participating teachers to ensure that all electronic instructional materials are adequately utilized by participants for the remaining duration of the program. The CITs/ATCs will provide ongoing support and training, to participating teachers, regarding the design of unique lessons that integrate the program devices, both in the classroom and at home. Teachers will learn how to construct impactful lessons, to incorporate multiple forms of media, and to design take-home activities that augment classroom instruction.

**TEA Program Requirement 6:** Applicant must describe how infrastructure is adequate to support students' anticipated use of devices provided through the grant at its participating campus(es). Response is limited to space provided, front side only. Use Arial font, no smaller than 10 point.

NISD has invested heavily in the development of a technology infrastructure that can adequately support student usage of mobile devices. Each campus is connected to the District data center with fiber optic cabling and the data center connects to the internet with dual 1Gbps connections. A majority of campus' Ethernet to desk connectivity is accomplished with 1,000Mbps links. Every NISD classroom is equipped with computers for students and teachers, a digital projector, document camera, printer, and access to many other technology-rich classroom resources. Additionally, K-12 teachers and students have access to computer labs, libraries, and mobile device/laptop carts where technology-infused projects can be completed. NISD has piloted Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) policies at multiple campuses and determined that existing wireless network infrastructure is adequate to support a technology lending program and 1:1 student usage ratios in participating classrooms.

The District has an existing professional development plan that includes extensive Google applications training, as well as training for the electronic instructional tools that are available to classroom teachers. The District is currently in the process of providing student Google accounts, which will increase student connectivity and access to productivity tools. Google accounts are required for Chromebook usage, and will allow students to effectively utilize the devices while learning to also utilize cloud computing. CITs/ATCs will work closely with campuses and teachers to ensure that technology is effectively integrated into classroom instruction and to provide professional development, as required, for campus staff.

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**Schedule #17—Responses to TEA Program Requirements (cont.)**

County-district number or vendor ID: 015915

Amendment # (for amendments only):

**TEA Program Requirement 7:** Applicant must describe a plan for providing Internet access to the homes of students as needed. Response is limited to space provided, front side only. Use Arial font, no smaller than 10 point.

Internet access for student homes will be provided with portable MiFi hotspot devices that will be available for checkout, in conjunction with Chromebook devices, at participating campus libraries. Students will be able reserve a MiFi hotspot device at their campus library based upon their priority status. Unreserved devices will be accessible on a first-come first-served basis and follow standard library check out protocol once required agreement forms are on file. These devices provide 4G wireless internet access with no data or bandwidth limitations. Chromebook devices will be filtered to provide compliance with federal Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) guidelines. Program Chromebooks and MiFi devices will be linked and password protected to prevent unauthorized devices from accessing the internet for non-educational purposes.

**TEA Program Requirement 8:** Applicant must describe how technical support is adequate to support students' anticipated use of devices provided through the grant at its participating campus(es). Response is limited to space provided, front side only. Use Arial font, no smaller than 10 point.

NISD has developed a diverse and comprehensive District technology support network. Participating campus librarians, teachers, CITs and/or Technology Support Specialists will all be trained in the proper use and maintenance of the devices. Campus Librarians will oversee routine care and maintenance of the devices and Campus Instructional Technologists (CITs) and/or Technology Support Specialists (TSS) will troubleshoot and provide repairs as necessary.

Students will have the following resources available to ensure adequate technical support:

- Instructional handout(s) detailing the basic use and operation of the Chromebook and MiFi device will be provided to all participating students
- All program teachers will be trained in the basic use and operation of all lending equipment
- Campus Librarians will exchange malfunctioning devices for functional devices from the collection, whenever possible
- Campus CITs and TSS will be troubleshoot and repair malfunctioning device(s)
- The District Help Desk will provide support with related program software applications

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**Schedule #17—Responses to TEA Program Requirements (cont.)**

County-district number or vendor ID: 015915

Amendment # (for amendments only):

**TEA Program Requirement 9:** Applicant must describe how the grant will be administered on participating campus(es), including a description of how the check-out and check-in process will operate, who will be in charge of the check-out process, especially in cases of competing need, and the process that will be used to maintain the technology lending equipment in proper working condition. Response is limited to space provided, front side only. Use Arial font, no smaller than 10 point.

Campus level administration of the lending program will be the responsibility of the campus librarian. All program lending devices will be added to the existing campus library collection and the librarian will oversee their check in and check out by library staff. This program is not a one-to-one student-to-device initiative. To ensure equitable access to program equipment, campuses will utilize a combination of reserved time by classroom and open blocks of time for first-come-first-served access. Students will additionally be able to reserve devices based upon their priority status. A Google form will be used to track student priority points, as a means to prioritize device holds; to confirm that all agreement forms are have been signed and returned; and to track overall student participation in the program. Devices will be inspected at the point of check out and check in to ensure that they are not damaged and are in correct working order. Program equipment inventory will be monitored and tracked using the District's established library management software.

Device management will be overseen by the Campus Instructional Technologist (CIT) and/or the campus Technology Support Specialist (TSS). All program Chromebook devices will include a WiFi management control console which will enable staff to centrally configure, track, and manage all program devices. MiFi devices will be password protected and configured to only permit access by program Chromebook devices, to ensure that student internet access meets all state and federal requirements. Device repair and troubleshooting will be provided by the CIT/TSS, and the NISD Technology department, when required.

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**Schedule #17—Responses to TEA Program Requirements (cont.)**

County-district number or vendor ID: 015915

Amendment # (for amendments only):

**TEA Program Requirement 10:** Applicant must describe how it will account for the technology lending equipment according to local policy, including providing insurance if appropriate. Response is limited to space provided, front side only. Use Arial font, no smaller than 10 point.

**Accounting of Equipment"**

All devices will be marked to identify them as NISD property and to include an identification number and barcode for use with the campus library catalog. Devices will only be available for checkout to students who have returned signed student and parent agreement forms. NISD does not currently have an existing local policy for student lending equipment. The District will develop a local policy prior to implementation of the program, based upon existing local policies for staff technology checkout and the 2012 iPad lending program policy.

**Insurance:**

NISD will not be purchasing insurance for lending program devices, due to the low replacement cost versus the comparatively high cost of insurance coverage. The District will instead self-insure and replace devices as needed with local funds.

**TEA Program Requirement 11:** Applicants must describe the development and implementation of a *Technology Lending Agreement* to be signed by parents or guardians of the students and by the student. The agreement must address responsible use and care of the equipment, responsible use of the district's digital resources, and responsible use of the Internet. The agreement may incorporate an existing *Responsible Use Policy* by reference. The Technology Lending Agreement must verify that students receiving Internet access at home have a demonstrated grade level mastery of the Digital Citizenship strand of the Technology Applications Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS). Response is limited to space provided, front side only. Use Arial font, no smaller than 10 point.

**Development of Technology Lending Agreement:**

The District will develop a Technology Lending Agreement, based upon the District's previous iPad lending program. The agreement will state that the District maintains sole ownership of the equipment; that students will maintain responsibility for any damage/loss of the lending equipment; for proper care of the device; for all non-District installed data loaded on the device; and for responsible use of all program equipment and internet, even if the device is accessed by third parties.

**Implementation of Technology Lending Agreement:**

Parents and students will be required to review, sign, and return the Technology Lending Agreement to the school in order to participate in the lending program. A spreadsheet will be referenced to confirm that both student and parent agreement forms are on file prior to device checkout.

**Responsible Use and Care Policy:**

The agreement will cover responsible use of the device including charging the device, recommendations for avoiding situations in which the device could be damaged, proper handling the device, and general care. In addition, the agreement will reference the District's existing Acceptable Use policies.

**Verification of TEKS Grade Level Mastery:**

Verification of TEKS grade level mastery of digital citizenship requirements will be achieved through certifications in the student usage and parental acknowledgement forms. Ongoing confirmation will be achieved by monitoring student usage and pre- and post-program surveys.

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